

Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park Commission

Annual Report 2005



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Please contact Joel Hoffman at
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Executive Order 2001-10 put forth the following vision for the commission and the citizens of Michigan:

A commitment to establishing and maintaining a place where veterans and their families and Michigan citizens can gather to reflect and pay tribute to those who have unselfishly made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom.

The Charge of the Commission

- Advise the Department of Management and Budget on the development, management, and maintenance of the Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park.
- Advise the Department of Management and Budget and work with organizations on the operations of programs, exclusive to the Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park.
- Advise the Michigan State Police regarding the provisions of police and security services for the Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park and the enforcement of rules for the care and preservation of the park.
- Coordinate with the City of Lansing regarding state activities or development of the Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park affecting city operations.
- Issue an annual report to the Governor and the Legislature on the activities of the commission.

2006 Meetings

January 31, 2006

April 25, 2006

May 16, 2006

July 18, 2006

October 17, 2006

All meetings begin at 10 a.m.
Lewis Cass Building, 1st Floor
Large Conference Room

Current Commissioners

Major Gail Anthony, Chair

Kenneth D. Bing

John Mullaney

John E. Reeves

Pamela M. Vacketta

Hubert Hess,

Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

Joel Hoffman,

Department of Management and Budget

Commissioners whose service ended in 2005

Charles Merz, Chair

John Murray

Chaplain Alfonso Todd, Jr.

The Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park Commission was established by Executive Order 2001-10 of November 21, 2001.

The Commission is composed of seven members, five of whom are appointed by the Governor from the general public. The commission is a Type II advisory entity within the Department of Management and Budget. The members appointed by the

Governor serve a three-year term. The chairperson is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Governor. In addition, the Director of the Department of Management and Budget and the Director of Department of Military and Veterans Affairs each appoints a designee to the commission.



In the spirit of the vision for the Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park, the commissioners have passed a resolution stating that the park acreage should be dedicated to all those who served in the defense of our country and to those who made the ultimate sacrifice by laying down their lives in that noble pursuit. The park is dedicated to all Michigan veterans, past, present, and future. The resolution goes on to state that only one additional monument to the already existing Vietnam Monument should be added to the park in order to assure visual integrity, open space, and to adhere to the Executive Order vision.

The commission has been working with the Michigan Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Monument Fund Commission to ensure that the Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park Monument along with their monument and park are placed together in visual harmony. The chairpersons of each group have met with the legislature to have the boundaries for each park changed.

Very respectfully,
Gail M. Anthony, Major
Michigan National Guard

Resolution

A resolution that recognizes the duty of the Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park Commission to assist the Department of Management and Budget in the development of criteria and guidelines for the design and placement of memorials and monuments in the Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park.

Whereas, 1.6 acres of space has been dedicated in the Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park for placement of memorials and monuments, and

Whereas, This acreage should be dedicated to all those who have served in defense of our country and to those who made the ultimate sacrifice by laying down their lives in that noble pursuit, and

Whereas, Dignity and respect for the Veterans being honored in Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park is of primary concern of this Commission, and this Commission desires to achieve a setting that clearly communicates this dignity and respect; now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park Commission proposes the following guidelines for placement of monuments and memorials in the Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park:

Open space must be preserved to the greatest extent possible out of respect for those being honored in the Park;

A single Memorial commemorating the Park, dedicated to the men and women who have served in defense of our country, and to those who made the ultimate sacrifice by laying down their lives, may be erected to identify the Park and its purpose;

Appropriate wording on the Memorial is to be approved by the Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park Commission;

A landscape to enclose, frame, and enhance the memorial in such a way as to communicate respect, reverence and contemplation to the setting of the Park and Memorial;

The Memorial will be the only additional monument (along with the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial) to be constructed in the Michigan Veterans' Memorial Park to assure visual integrity; and

A nationally recognized School of Landscape Architecture be invited by this Commission to conduct a competition amongst its faculty and student body for the design of the Memorial and its setting.

Past and Current Events

POW/MIA Cage Walk

March 15, 2003 - 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Christian Motorcycle Association

May 1, 2004 - 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Michigan Volunteers of America

May 25, 2004 - 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Enduring Freedom Ride

June 12, 2004 - 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm

American Legion 396 Riders, Garden City, MI

July 25, 2004 - 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm

VFW Auxiliary

January 5, 2005

Michigan Volunteers of America

May 25, 2005 - 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Enduring Freedom Ride

June 11, 2005 - 11:30 am - 4:00 pm

Michigan Volunteers of America

May 16, 2006 - 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Enduring Freedom Ride

June 10, 2006 - 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm